



The June issue looks at:

- (1) The big picture: main developments
- (2) Youth Department update
- (3) Council of Europe
- (4) Other news
- (5) Publications

## (1) The big picture



The Joint Council on Youth (CMJ) has agreed to extend the No Hate Speech Campaign to 31 March 2015.

The NHSM FORUM will be held on 2-5 October in Gabala, Azerbaijan. Some 250 participants are expected to participate.

The NHSM team will lead a debate on hate speech on the Internet – “Hate Speech and its consequences for human rights on line” at the forthcoming [EURODIG](#) annual European forum.

*Forthcoming European Action Days are:*

- 20 June: International Refugee Day;
- 22 July: European Day for Victims of Hate Crime.

The European Action Day in May was associated with a seminar held on 15-17 May at the EYC in Budapest on “How to address homophobic and transphobic hate speech”. The seminar was organised by the CoE’s Youth Department and the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Unit in cooperation with IGLYO. Gibraltar marked the International Day against Homophobia on 15 May by an [event](#) on the main Piazza where NHSM videos were shown [[video](#) – scroll to 18.30]. A [video](#) was also prepared specially for this EAD.

*Country action:*

In association with The European Action Week Against Racism, the national campaign of **Iceland** organised a “Cards against racism” project. The participants received instructions on how to combat racism and its effects.

In **Spain**, a Victims of Hate and Discrimination Crimes Council was set up in order to protect and give assistance to people targeted by such crimes and to advocate the passing of a law within this field.

The **Armenian** youth department, youth organisations and the national campaign committee collaborated on a series of workshops and community meetings. A recent workshop for journalists focused on raising awareness on using appropriate terminology when talking about religious minorities. A “Pop-Up Newsroom”, a reporting tool was organised on 6 May with the hashtag #RMRAM (Religious Minority Reporting-Armenia).

The **Slovenian** National Campaign Committee organised a seminar for website moderators on 22 May in Ljubljana, during which the campaign coordinator presented the NHSM to the participants.

The **United Kingdom** launched a national collaboration to work on the NHSM. The Ministry of Justice has funded a UK civil society group called the Hate Crime Hub to set up a scheme. A first group of young volunteers will be trained on 9 July. The UK has a system for reporting hate crimes - [True Vision](#) - which will link up to the campaign.

A multilateral youth exchange involving 8 countries (Armenia, Cyprus, Georgia, Hungary, Italy, Macedonia, Poland and Turkey) took place in Budapest on 26 April - 4 May with the aim of combating racism and discrimination, as expressed online as hate speech. [[video](#)]

A meeting for NCCs was held in Wépion, Belgium, on 12-14 May at the kind invitation of the *Bureau International de la Jeunesse*, of the French speaking community of Belgium where an agreement was reached on a photo and video competition, guidelines for an evaluation of the campaign and the launching of an on-line survey.

The state of play of the national campaign committees can be found and checked on the [website](#) and on the [new map](#) of national campaign coordinators.

A campaign newsletter is produced twice a month. Please send your contributions to: [youth.nohatespeech@coe.int](mailto:youth.nohatespeech@coe.int). You can also subscribe to the newsletter by joining the movement or clicking “sign up to our newsletter” in [www.nohatespeechmovement.org](http://www.nohatespeechmovement.org).

Campaign material – videos, templates for posters and the brochure presentation can be downloaded from [www.coe.int/youthcampaign](http://www.coe.int/youthcampaign). Also: [Detailed brochure](#); [Flyer](#); [Poster](#).

Have you joined the official online Campaign? Please check out [www.nohatespeechmovement.org](http://www.nohatespeechmovement.org). You may also wish to join the campaign on [Facebook](#) and subscribe to the campaign Tweets [[#nohatespeech](#)].

*Hate speech, as defined by the Committee of Ministers of the CoE, covers all forms of expression which spread, incite, promote or justify racial hatred, xenophobia, anti-Semitism or other forms of hatred based on intolerance, including: intolerance expressed by aggressive nationalism and ethnocentrism, discrimination and hostility against minorities, migrants and people of immigrant origin. For the purpose of the campaign, other forms of discrimination and prejudice, such as anti-gypsyism, christianphobia, islamophobia, misogyny, sexism and discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity fall clearly within the scope of hate speech.*

**For up-to-date CoE action regarding events in Ukraine please check the [CoE website](#) and the [CoE Journal](#).**

Austria hosted the [CM Ministerial Session](#) on 5-6 May in Vienna, which was an occasion for both Ukrainian and Russian Ministers for Foreign Affairs to sit at the same table.

[Azerbaijan](#) took over from Austria as CM Chair from May until November. [[Stocktaking of the Austrian chairmanship](#); [Priorities of the Azerbaijani chairmanship](#)] Within its Chairmanship, Azerbaijan will host *The Forum of the No Hate Speech Movement* (Gabala, 2-5 October). It will also host the *First Global Forum on Youth Policies* to review the significance and importance of the UN plan of action on youth which will be held in Baku on 28-30 October 2014. Co-organised by the UN special envoy on youth, Unesco, UNDP and the CoE Youth Department, the

Forum will include some 400 participants: country representatives, youth representatives and experts.

The Guide to human rights for internet users ([Recommendation CM/Rec\(2014\)6](#)) has become a very popular document being requested by many young persons.

The PACE June session will be held in Strasbourg on 23-27 June.

At its meeting on 2 June, the PACE Committee on Equality agreed to launch a “[No Hate Parliamentary Alliance](#)” at the October 2014 session. PACE President Anne Brasseur stressed the urgent need for concrete action against hate speech at times of economic and financial crisis as *"they offer fertile grounds for a climate that distills hate"*.

On June 3, State Duma International Affairs Committee Chairman, Alexei Pushkov [announced](#) that the Russian delegation would take no part in PACE sittings in June.

Mailis Reps, PACE rapporteur on “Strengthening the role and protection of human rights defenders in Council of Europe member States” [stated](#) on 3 June that “Recent events in the Russian Federation concerning human rights defenders and civil society are disappointing and prove that the state-orchestrated campaign aimed at silencing independent civil society continues”.

Following a request made by PACE, Turkey has [agreed to lift the ban](#) on You Tube and Twitter.

At its meeting on 23 May, the PACE Standing Committee encouraged a new Council of Europe [multilateral treaty](#) which would result in new laws to crack down on “match-fixing”, illegal betting and other forms of corruption in sport, calling for it to enter into force swiftly.

The PACE [bureau decided](#) on 22 May not to hold any PACE committee meetings in Azerbaijan for two years, following a last minute decision by the Azeri authorities to withdraw a visa already granted to a member of PACE.

On 13 May PACE Committee on Social Affairs called on European governments to implement the relevant standards in order to [respect children’s rights](#) and improve juvenile justice practices.

On 21 May, the French Parliament [approved the ratification](#) of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence ([Istanbul Convention](#)). 34 member states have already signed and 11 have ratified the Convention which will enter into force on 1 August 2014.

*The CoE [Journal](#) provides brief news of the organisation's activities on a weekly basis.*

**Mr Jean-Christophe Bas will take up his duties as Director of Democratic Citizenship and Participation on 16 June 2014. Mr Ulrich Bunjes has been appointed to ensure the interim.**

## **(2) Youth Department update**

An enlarged working group of representatives of some of the CoE's statutory organs including the CMJ met in Strasbourg on 26-27 May to discuss the preparation of a Recommendation on "young people's access to fundamental rights" as recommended by the CM in its [reply](#) to Parliamentary Assembly [Recommendation 2015 \(2013\)](#). The first meeting of the drafting group to be held in Strasbourg on 28-29 August will take up the recommendations made by the enlarged group.

On 5-7 May the [CoE Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card](#) organised, in co-operation with the European Youth Card Organisation ([EYCA](#)) and [Jugendkarte GmbH, Austria](#), a Seminar on "[Inclusive mobility for young people in Europe](#)". A Good Policy Series will be published on the Seminar's results. On 4 July the Partial Agreement and EYCA will organise a Seminar for the Permanent Representatives to the Council of Europe in Strasbourg on: "Is youth mobility good? The truth about youth mobility." The Seminar will look at the question of "brain drain – brain gain" and the line between mobility and migration.

A seminar on [Democratic youth participation in Algeria and Tunisia](#) will be held on 6-8 June in Hamammet, Tunisia within the South Programme.

The Programming Committee on Youth (PC), made up of eight members each from the CDEJ and the AC will meet on 11-13 June in Strasbourg.

The PC establishes, monitors and evaluates the programmes of the European Youth Centres and of the European Youth Foundation.

Following a call for tender for the coordination of the CoE international reviews of national youth policies for 2014-2016, the bids received will be examined in June.

The new candidates for the Council of Europe [Quality Label](#) for youth centres include Portugal and Belgium (Flanders). A visit to the Expo Centre, Parque das Nacoes, Lisbon will take place on 24-27 June. The 6th Platform will be hosted next year by Ecocenter "Radulovacki" in Serbia.

The 3rd edition of the World Forum for Democracy "From participation to influence: can youth revitalise democracy?" will take place in Strasbourg, 3-5 November 2014. In this edition of the World Forum, young people will be invited to make concrete proposals for "real democracy". The [EYF](#) will select 300 youth participants and 8 trainers from the Youth Sector.

WFD2014 [Call for Participants](#) - Deadline: **Sunday 22nd June 2014**

WFD2014 [Call for Trainers](#) - Deadline: **Sunday 15th June**

***Activities held in May included:***

- Study session Rural Youth Europe ([RYE](#)) and European Confederation of Youth Clubs ([ECYC](#)) - Rebuilding the European story (EYCB, 6-10 May)
- Living library and No Hate Speech Movement workshop in the context of EYE May 2014 - European Parliament/European Youth Forum event (Strasbourg, 9-10 May)
- International Network for young refugees ([VYRE](#)) - Read my story-hear my voice: refugees' contribution to democratic citizenship (EYCS, 12-17 May)
- Evaluation of study sessions (EYCB, 12 May 2014)
- Training in Human rights - 21st century challenges - National Training Course in human rights education, to promote at national level the Recommendation on HRE/EDC and Compass (Slovakia, 13-16 May)
- Seminar on challenges faced by young people on their sexual orientation and gender identity and educational responses to those. In cooperation with the LGBT Unit and in connection with a European Action Day on [IDAHO](#) (EYCB, 14-18 May)
- Seminar on action against hate speech and discrimination based on religion; in cooperation with the OSCE/ODIHR (EYCS, 21-23 May)

- Let's make it fair! - National Training Course in Human Rights Education - to promote at national level the Recommendation on HRE/EDC and Compass (Croatia, 21-25 May)
- 50-50 Joint training seminar for youth leaders and officers in charge of youth policy on youth participation and democratic citizenship in the Russian Federation (EYCB, 25 May – 1 June)
- Consultative meeting on quality standards and tools in non-formal education in preparation of the training course for trainers (EYCB, 26-29 May)

***Forthcoming activities include:***

- Informal Contact Group of the Roma Youth Action Plan (EYCS, 2-3 June)
- Seminar with national youth councils and CDEJ experts on the role of youth policies in supporting young people's access to the labour market (EYCB, 2-6 June)
- Study session "Young Roma Women = Empowered Women", in co-operation with the Forum of European Roma Young People (FERYP) (EYCS, 9-14 June)
- Training course in Serbia on local youth policy, participation and democratic citizenship level (Serbia, 9-5 June)
- Preparatory meeting of the "Forever Young?" Symposium on challenges to transition to working life and autonomy of young people in Europe (EYCS, 16-17 June)
- Youth Peace Camp (EYCS and Europa Park, Rust, Germany – 16-26 June)
- Youth Dialogue Camp ("Ethnomir", Kaluga Region, Russian Federation, 22-27 June)
- Seminar with members of youth parliaments and NGOs on young people's autonomy and transition to working life (EYCS, 23-28 June)
- "United for dignity" - Conference on the effects of multiple discrimination on Roma young people, with an emphasis on LGBT and migrant Roma youth (EYCS, 24-26 June)
- Study session "Youth as Conflict Transformers: Building a Peaceful Europe Together", in co-operation with the International Federation of Liberal Youth ([IFLRY](#)) (EYCB, 20 June – 4 July)
- Study Session "Understanding and countering multiple discrimination faced by young people with disabilities in Europe", in co-operation with the European Network on Independent Living ([ENIL](#)) (EYCS, 30 June – 5 July)

- Study Session "Say no to Hate! Young people addressing hate speech from an interreligious perspective", in co-operation with the Ecumenical Youth Council in Europe ([EYCE](#)) (EYCB, 30 June – 5 July)
- Preparatory meeting of the Study Session "Labour Policies for Youth Lessons and Challenges" in co-operation with the International Union of Socialist Youth ([IUSY](#)) (EYCS, 30 June – 1 July)
- Preparatory meeting of the residential seminar on the Enter! LTTC for youth workers on access to social rights for young people (EYCS, 2-3 July)
- Training course on human rights education and youth leadership in Roma communities - "Human rights Education Defenders" (Thessaloniki, 4-7 July)
- Training course on Human Rights Education with Roma Young People (Hungary, 7-11 July)

### **EU-CoE youth partnership**

The Specific Grant Agreement 2014 has been officially signed, confirming the activities to be implemented this year.

*Forthcoming partnership activities include:*

- 5<sup>th</sup> History Seminar of Youth Work in Europe: "Autonomy through Dependency. Histories of cooperation, conflict and innovation in youth work" (Espoo, Finland – 8-10 June)
- Training course on participatory youth policy (Berlin, 23-25 June)
- Expert meeting on youth participation (Brussels, 30 June - 2 July)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> prep meeting for the mapping of barriers to social inclusion (Brussels, 3-4 July)

### ***Staff***

Welcome to Benedicte Stevenin, who has joined the European Youth Foundation until the end of the year. She will be working mainly on the 2014 World Forum for Democracy.

### **(3) Council of Europe**

In his [Human Rights Comment](#) published on 3 June, the CoE Human Rights Commissioner mentioned that "*Young people should be empowered to assert their rights. .... We have to be sure that being young does not become an obstacle to the full exercise of human rights during the crisis and that young people can participate in national decision-making to voice their needs, hopes and fears. Ombudspersons, equality bodies and human rights commissions should also reach out to young persons so that their concerns and complaints can be addressed.*

*Governments should not only view young people as holding keys to our future but recognise their rights and role in Europe today.”*

[20 years](#) after the first session of the Congress on 31 May 1994, Herwig van Staa, President of the Congress, [pointed out](#) that local and regional democracy has now become the landmark of European democratic development. *“Since its creation, the Congress has been at the forefront of the work for decentralisation and greater autonomy for local authorities and regions. Today, the Congress has solid accomplishments to show. The European Charter of Local Self-Government, our reference binding text, has been ratified by all 47 Council of Europe member states,”* he said. *“In the Congress, we are convinced that greater decentralisation and more democracy at the grassroots is what Europe needs today.”*

A Conference organised by the [Congress](#) Current Affairs Committee on 12 June in Strasbourg will concentrate on the theme: *“It’s not just about consultation: How can local and regional authorities promote youth participation that leads to real change in society? Promoting active citizenship and engagement of young people through representative institutions and other means.”* AC member Liam Preston will address the conference and present the Advisory Council’s contribution.

[A call](#) for youngsters to get involved in the CoE was issued by UK Darlington counsellor, Cyndi Hughes. Young persons with a passion for democracy were encouraged to become involved with Europe’s human rights watchdog. In October, one young person from each of the 47 member states will have the chance to discuss issues faced by their peers at a meeting of the Congress in Strasbourg.

#### **(4) Other news**

The [European Youth Event](#) (Strasbourg, 9-11 May) organised by the European Parliament, gathered some 5,000 young people from around Europe who called for quality jobs for European youth, the recognition of informally acquired skills and terminating the exploitation of trainees and forced mobility. They also called for uniform European election rules, better education about EU affairs and the support of digital innovation. A panel debate entitled “Human rights in the internet – No hate please!” was organised by the CoE which also presented a “living library”. Activists were present at a stand specially dedicated to the No Hate Speech Campaign. [Ideas](#) emanating from European Youth Event

will be given to the newly-elected MEPs at their first plenary session in July.

On 20 May the EU Council and the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council, adopted a [Resolution on the overview of the structured dialogue process including social inclusion of young people](#).

This year's [Charlemagne Youth Prize](#) (open to young people aged between 16 and 30) went to the Danish travel project "Our Europe". The second prize went to the Dutch project JouwDelft & Co youth congress and the third to Employment4U, a training project from Cyprus. The Charlemagne Youth Prize aims to encourage the development of a European consciousness among young people, as well as their participation in European integration projects.

On 2 June the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) started its [third annual youth forum](#) bringing together youth organisations and youth leaders and member states to continue the discussion about a new global agenda to succeed the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) under the theme "#Youth2015: Realizing the Future They Want." "This is about your future – so it must be your agenda," Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon stressed. AC member Seymour Huseynov took part in the Forum.

Following the first [European Presidential Debate](#) on 28 April a second televised debate took place on [15 May](#) at the European Parliament in Brussels. The students making up most of the audience were able to ask questions using Twitter allowing them to engage with the candidates on a real-time basis. The main theme debated among the five candidates for the European Commission Presidency, was Diversity, but other topics were also discussed, such as Migration, Religion and the current situation in Ukraine."

In its report "[World of Work 2014 – Developing with Jobs](#)" the ILO found that developing countries which focused on creating high quality jobs during the early 2000s enjoyed significant economic growth after 2007. The report focuses on developing countries and argues that quality jobs are a key driver for development. It draws on evidence from over 140 developing countries and finds that a common factor amongst those countries that have achieved higher per capita income and sustained growth was quality jobs.

In March 2014, the [youth unemployment rate](#) (under 25 years) was 22.8% in the 28 members of the Council of Europe that are also European Union countries. The highest levels were recorded in Greece (56.8%), Spain (53.9%) and Croatia (49.0%). The youth unemployment rate in the EU was more than twice as high as the general average rate of 10.5%. Among other European countries, youth unemployment exceeded the 50% rate in 2013 in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” according to the [ILO](#).

[Youth in Advancement](#) is organising an evaluation meeting on the Role of Youth in Action in Youth Work development in Mavrovo and Skopje. Two AC members are attending (Luis Alvarado Martinez and Eliza Popper).

The [OECD 2014 Forum](#), entitled *Resilient Economies for Inclusive Societies*, held in May to coincide with the annual [OECD Ministerial Council Meeting](#), was organised around three cross-cutting themes: Inclusive Growth, Jobs, and Trust, exploring the multifaceted nature of resilience and how to now “bounce forward” in addressing economic, social, and environmental challenges.

[Global Action Week on Education for All](#) held on 4-10 May 2014 by the Global Campaign for Education (GCE) and supported by UNESCO, focused on raising awareness on issues around disability.

## **(5) Publications**

The Council of Europe Youth Department [publications](#) may be consulted online.

### **NEW!**

#### [EU-CoE Youth Partnership publications:](#)

- Perspectives on youth, issue 1 - "[2020 - What do you see?](#)" The French and German versions will soon be available.
- Youth knowledge book 18 - "[History of youth work](#)" volume 4.
- Coyote #20: "[What's Xtreme about youth?!](#)" – print version
- [Getting there...](#) - publication on recognition of youth work and non-formal learning

#### *Reminder:*

- Youth Policy Review in Ukraine is available in [English](#).
- Youth Policy Review in Belgium is available in [English](#) and [French](#). Other [Youth policy reviews](#) are available on line.

- The revised European Youth Foundation leaflet is available in 5 languages: [English](#), [French](#), [German](#), [Russian](#) and [Turkish](#). Online versions now offer the following [languages versions](#) : Slovenian, Romanian, Finnish, Spanish and Serbian (NB. more to come!)
- “[Have your say](#)” – A manual on the Revised European Charter on the participation of young people in local and regional life.
- T-Kit No.11 – [Mosaic: Training kit for the Euro-Mediterranean youth work](#) - available in French: “Mosaïques – kit de formation pour le travail euro-méditerranéen de jeunesse”.
- T-Kit No. 12 – [Youth transforming conflicts](#)
- The leaflet on the Youth Department is available in [English](#), [French](#), [German](#), [Russian](#) and [Turkish](#).
- The Right to be Young – report of the [Roma Youth Conference](#) – available from the Youth Department: [youth@coe.int](mailto:youth@coe.int)
- A [Survey on young people’s awareness of their access to rights](#) - by trainee Chaim Waibel. It complements the publication inspired by the Advisory Council on Youth: “[Young Persons and the case-law of the European Convention on Human Rights and the European Social Charter](#)”. [Former AC member, Thomas Leys (IFLRY) has published an article “[Where is our European Bill of Rights](#)” in a new publication “[Redrafting Europe - The Young Liberals' White Paper on the Reform of the European Union](#)”].
- [Compendium](#) of Council of Europe approaches to key youth policy and youth work issues (French).
- The [European Portfolio for youth leaders and youth workers](#) is available in [Turkish](#).  
<https://book.coe.int/eur/en/>
- [Youth knowledge book 17](#): “Learning mobility and non-formal learning in European contexts”, published by the EU-CoE youth partnership.
- Coyote #19 “[What’s going on?!](#)” (in the European youth arena).
- “[Visegrad Youth – Comparative review of the situation of young people in the V4 countries](#)”, a contribution to knowledge based youth policy development

**“Pensez Jeunesse!”**

The French version of *Think Youth!*, kindly translated by the « *Mission coopération européenne et internationale jeunesse vie associative, Ministère des Sports, de la Jeunesse, de l’Education populaire et de la vie associative* » is available on [site](#).

**Facebook pages:**

[Advisory Council on Youth](#)

[Council of Europe - Youth](#)

[European Youth Centre, Budapest](#)

[Combating hate speech](#)

[EU-CoE youth partnership](#)

[European Youth Foundation](#)

Past issues of *Think Youth!* are available on the [website of the Youth Department](#).

Best regards,

Anna Trigona

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**Abbreviations:**

CCJ: Advisory Council on Youth

CDDH: Steering Committee for Human Rights

CDEJ: European Steering Committee on Youth

CDPPE: Steering Committee for Education Policy and Practice

CM: Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe

CMJ: Joint Council on Youth

CoE: Council of Europe

Congress: The Council of Europe Congress of Local and Regional Authorities

CPJ: Programming Committee on Youth

DG: Directorate General

EDC: Education for Democratic Citizenship

EURODIG: European Dialogue on Internet Governance

EYCB: European Youth Centre Budapest

EYCS: European Youth Centre Strasbourg

EYF: European Youth Foundation

*ncc: National campaign coordinator*  
*NSC: North-South Centre of the Council of Europe*  
*NHSM: No Hate Speech Movement*  
*ODIHR: Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights*  
*OSCE: Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe*  
*PACE: Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe*  
*UNESCO: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization*  
*UNHCR: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees*  
*YFJ: European Youth Forum*

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